

CONFIDENTIAL REPORT

SUBJECT: Meeting with Abessowary 2 and the AERONAUTIC Psychological Warfare Panel in New York

DATE: 5 October 1955

1. The purpose of the meeting was primarily to discuss the necessity of improving the contents of the radio scripts prepared by the group.

2. Prior to the detailed discussion and editing of the scripts several meetings were held devoted exclusively to the clarification of the political thinking that should underly them. In these discussions we have advanced the argument that the interests of the group, insofar as the propaganda aims are concerned, should veer away from the chauvinistic anti-Russian policy which has been the basis of their propaganda output in the past.

In the discussions that ensued we defended the principle that the fight against the Soviet oppression is a matter of common interest to all the people enslaved by the regime, including the Russians themselves. The expression of hatred against everything Russian militates against the vital interests of the national minorities in USSR because it excludes a large group of people and it raises an issue of chauvinistic hatred that has no basis in factual relationships between the oppressed Great Russians and the oppressed minorities within USSR.

3. Getting down to the business of actual script writing which would reflect the Ukrainian national interest without being the merchants of hate to everything Russian, we had considerable difficulty in reconciling the national Ukrainian interests of the group with the policy outlined above, which precludes the extreme chauvinism. The produced scripts (five, six, and seven) were devoid of the former undertones of hatred against everything Russian and from this point of view they were deemed acceptable.

4. The scripts produced were recorded at our suggestion in a fashion designed to enliven the presentation of material by the introduction of two additional voices, by cutting down the monologues, and by dramatization of the entire presentation. The previous tapes were recorded by a single voice and the resulting monotony in audio effect rendered the broadcasts dull and uninteresting.

5. Because of the involved and detailed process of script editing it has been decided that their final rendering will be accomplished with our immediate participation and that the group will do the preparatory assembling of material.

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